Publicity to Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1993

465. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been considerable increase in kidnapping cases including child kidnapping cases, in Delhi

(b) if so, the reasons that even after enactment of Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1993, which provides death penalty for acts of kidnapping, cases of kidnapping continued to increase;

(c) whether Government have analysed the reasons for increase in the kidnapping cases;

(d) the steps Government have contemplated to meet the situation; and

(e) whether Government are giving sufficient publicity to thee provisions of Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1993; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Increase in cases of kidnapping in Delhi is attributable to the following:—

(1) Since the families of the kidnapped persons generally are tightlipped with the police, referring to conduct ransom negotiations and hostage rescue privately, and convictions seldom occur owing to the reluctance of the victims to depose in the court, kidnapping is regarded by criminal elements as a very easy way of making big money quickly.

(2) Rise in instances of personal enmity owing to business rivalry property disputes and other causes.

(3) Elopement, wherein, in most cases, the minor girls know the accused.

(d) Several measures have been taken to check the crime of kidnapping: kidnappers and other criminals having a previous history are kept under surveillance; intelligence gathering machinery has also been geared up; motor cycle patrolling as well as surveillance by P.C.R. vans have been intensified; press advertisements have been published for educating the public about safety measures; special cells have been created in the Crime Branch and also in each of the 9 police districts, assigning dedicated teams for investigation of kidnapping and abduction cases; safety tips for parents of school-going children have been prepared, widely published in the newspapers and circulated to all the schools; and school staff is being trained in tightening security measures.

(e) The provisions of the "The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1993" have been given wide publicity.

Action plan against smuggler Veerappan

466. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had drawn up an Action Plan against the gang of the smuggler and poacher, Shri K. M. Veerappan in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement that Action Plan; and

(c) the result thereof?